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## WASHINGTON. POLITICAL.

**An Electioneering Document.**  
WASHINGTON, Sept. 3.—Twenty-three thousand copies of a public debt statement have been printed, in order to meet the demand for them from all parts of the country.

**BOSTON.**  
**An Undevoted Speech of Sumner.**  
BOSTON, Sept. 3.—Senator Sumner before leaving for Europe, confided to F. W. Bird, Chairman of the Liberal Republican State Convention, for publication, a speech which he had intended to deliver in Faneuil Hall this evening. Sumner in his note to Bird says:

I have confidently hoped on returning home to see my fellow citizens in that venerable forum, dear to us all, and to speak more on the great question involving the welfare of our country, but recurring symptoms of a painful character, warm against me, and I must not for the present make any public effort, and he prescribes rest. The address is entitled "Presidential Election—Greensley or Grant," and is as follows in brief:

Referring to Horace Greasley, I have no hesitation in assigning the reason which led me to this conclusion: Believing the present incumbent unfit for the great office which he aspires for a second term, and not doubting that the vote for him would be regarded as a sanction of abuses and practices unrepentant in character, I early saw the difficulty of taking any part for his re-election. Long ago I declared while recognizing party as an essential agency and convenience, that I could not allow it to constrain my conscience against what seemed to me the requirements of the public good. Regarding always substance rather than form, I have been indifferent to the name by which I might be called, and not less indifferent to the name by which the candidate was urged. His supporters, while admitting his failure, and even the abuses and pretensions so notorious in his life, continued to re-elect him as necessary to uphold the party with which I have been associated. But it is easy to say all that, to vote for such a candidate as such a man, which is forbidden in politics as in morals. Two courses seemed open. One was to abstain from voting, and I completely accepted the result of the election. It is not easy for me to be neutral, certainly where wrong-doing is in question; nor is it my habit to shrink from responsibility. The other course was to declare while recognizing party as an essential agency and convenience, that I could not allow it to constrain my conscience against what seemed to me the requirements of the public good.

**ANTI-CONVENTION.**  
The gathering of anti-convention Straight-outs, now holding forth at Louisville, should give pause to our original, uncorrupted Greasley men. These Bourbon bolters are but putting in force their "independent" individual right to reject the voice of their party, and of party law and order, like our own Tennessee "independents." Evidently this anti-convention folk is doubly likely to hurt him who handles it. Suppose our Louisville friends should succeed in their darling scheme for dividing the Democracy. It is not plain enough that their success would be Greasley's defeat and the triumph of Radicalism? Equally plain is the tendency of our Tennessee independent anti-conventionists; they would land us in the arms of Radicalism.

We publish in full the remarkable letter of Chas. O'Connor, containing food for serious thought, and presenting the ultimate aims for which all Democrats are striving; though we differ with the distinguished writer as to their immediate practicalness, and think we shall hasten their accomplishment by the support of Greasley in the present contest.

**STRAIGHT-OUTS.**  
The Blanton Duncan Convention of Immaculates.

The Opening Scene—An Old Fashioned, Straight-Out Fisticuff.

The Louisville Courier-Journal gives the following report of the prostrate to Blanton Duncan's Convention, which occurred at the Galt House Monday afternoon:

The most exciting event of the day occurred at the Galt House in the afternoon. About 1 o'clock Col. Blanton Duncan, sitting in the corridor in conversation with several delegates, was approached by Gen. Geo. A. Custar and Dr. J. M. Keller, who were engaged in a private conversation, the following conversation subsequently ensued:

Col. Duncan alluding to his lameness, Gen. Custar said, satirically:

"You will be lame than this week."

Col. Duncan replied, looking towards the two fellows who had been big a thing it is, "is the biggest thing that has happened on this continent."

"Yes," Gen. Custar made answer, "it will last about three days."

Dr. J. M. Keller, who is a prominent physician of Louisville, and a man of irreproachable character, inquired of Col. Duncan if he had noticed the general appearance of the delegates who had arrived this morning?

Col. Duncan replied: "I don't know. I only know that in the delegation from New York there are ten men who represent ten millions. I call these pretty heavy men."

"Yes," replied Dr. Keller, "heavy as money is concerned."

"You can be assured," remarked Gen. Custar, "that there is money in it if the Colonel is interested."

"Talking about money," replied Duncan, "I have been offered a half million dollars to break up this convention."

Gen. Custar retorted that it was the natural inference that the other party had offered more than a half million dollars not to break it up.

At this Duncan excitedly said: "Well, sir, my character is as good as yours, and I added something about being bought and sold which was not fully caught by Gen. Custar and Dr. Keller."

"I am not going to discuss your character," said the General, "and have not referred to it particularly, but now that you have brought the subject before me, I will say to the party who would pay the biggest price, and that party you believed to be Grant."

"I don't know who your informer is," said Duncan; "but whoever he is he is a liar."

Gen. Custar remarked, "Don't be so fast, Colonel."

Dr. Keller, who was listening to them, then taking no part in the conversation, then turned to Col. Duncan and said:

"Col. Duncan, I am the party who is responsible for Gen. Custar's statement, and you must take that back."

Col. Duncan replied: "I will not take it back," and both rising, Dr. Keller struck Col. Duncan in the face, and Duncan replied by good testimony, without going out of this hall, that you openly said that this whole movement was a question of bargain and sale, and that, for your part, there was to be any sale, you were going to sell to the party who would pay the biggest price, and that party you believed to be Grant."

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**COTTON.**  
**Ravages of the Caterpillars.**  
MONTGOMERY, ALA., Sept. 3.—The caterpillars in Alabama have striped cotton fields as bare as frost. Some cotton fields are said to be so overgrown that the weeds could be laid up in a furrow by the hand. Such multitudes caused terrible alarm at first, because of their eating half grown bolls, but the things are now so numerous that the planters are more hopeful. They still insist that without high prices the crop will not pay the cost of producing. The estimated crop is ten per cent. below the yield of last year.

**ARKANSAS.**  
**A Ku-Klux Story Spoiled.**  
LITTLE ROCK, Sept. 3.—News from Pope county confirms the killing of County Clerk Hickox. Reliable statements say the killing was done by Harry Potter, a self-defense; that as Dodson Williams and Hickox passed out of town, they went by Potter's shop, blacksmith, and fired on him. Potter returned the fire, killing Hickox. He afterwards surrendered himself to the authorities. This statement is corroborated by witnesses and it is given out by the Government that it will not declare martial law.

**GREAT BRITAIN.**  
**Canterbury Cathedral on Fire.**  
LONDON, Sept. 3.—The eastern end of the roof of the great Cathedral at Canterbury was badly burned this morning. It caught over the shrine of Bishop Becket by upsetting a brazier used by the workmen repairing the roof. The fire was extinguished after destroying a hundred and fifty feet of the roof. There was much damage by water, but most of the valuable contents were saved.

**FRANCE.**  
**Mobs at Lyons and Narbonne.**  
PARIS, Sept. 3.—There is a mob at Lyons between the municipal and national authorities, which causes much feeling and excitement. The City Council had removed certain ecclesiastical teachers from office, and the Government interfered and reinstated them. The citizens several times collected in large numbers in the streets to protest against the removal of the teachers. The Government was at last obliged to call on the military to disperse the gatherings and prevent their recurrence.

**Troubles of an Author.**  
The publisher of Napoleon's life of Cesar have brought suit against the Emperor's biographer, the Count de Ségur. The Hague, Sept. 3.—The French detectives are here closely watching the movements of French members of the International Society, who are attending the Congress.

**A Bunchy Re-bellion.**  
HAYTIA, Sept. 3.—Yesterday most of the cochen were on a strike and armed with sticks prevented more peaceful orders from working. Gen. Desobles ordered the arrest of the rebel leaders and today quells. The prompt action of the General prevented a serious riot.

## THE GATHERING OF THE STRAIGHT-OUTS.

**Remarkable Letter of Chas. O'Connor.**  
LOUISVILLE, Sept. 3.—The National Democratic Convention met to-day in the Common Pleas Court Room of the Court-house. About 1 o'clock.

**Col. Duncan.**  
called the Convention to order. Rev. Dr. Platt addressed the Throne of Grace in an eloquent prayer for concord and peace and freedom from sectional jealousy throughout the land. Col. Duncan then spoke as follows:

Gentlemen of the Convention: It is my duty to call this assembly to order. Its objects are well known and require no explanation. We have been desirous to call together the honest men of the country who have abandoned all the principles which have hitherto characterized our organization. It is not my province to cast reflections upon the leaders of the party in whose wisdom and judgment their party unfortunately confided. Their action is invalid and void. It has no binding effect upon other individuals. It is a party, and it has already been repudiated by hundreds of thousands. No spirit of presumptions forwardness induced the gentlemen who acted with me to appeal to the American Democrats against the flagrant violation of party faith and utter negation of principle involved in the nomination of Horace Greasley. We did it to vindicate truth and protest against the offered reward for political treason to one who had repudiated a life-time in the bitterest animosity of those whose support he now has sought. If our call had been a failure, our duty would have been none the less performed. But the American heart responded in enthusiastic and harmonious tones to the musician's touch. There is a love for honesty, a yearning for integrity, a deep-rooted desire for reform in the hearts of the American people, and the language that I see before me to-day evinces an earnest desire for the same. That banner which has fallen from nervous and incompetent hands, and to prove that the old organization was not dead but sleeping, it has not died of its corruption as the latter day saints proclaim who are so eager for its destruction. It will not hold out hopes of recovery for party purposes, but it will hold out to every class. This is the only banner which has been shielded from the discredit of evil associations inadvertently formed, and official disavowal of its support. That I, at least, am not unduly influenced by that sentiment, may appear by the measure adopted against the party which has been repudiated by the forces employed. Equal opportunities for purging itself from political compromise and every class. This is the only banner which has been shielded from the discredit of evil associations inadvertently formed, and official disavowal of its support. That I, at least, am not unduly influenced by that sentiment, may appear by the measure adopted against the party which has been repudiated by the forces employed. Equal opportunities for purging itself from political compromise and every class. This is the only banner which has been shielded from the discredit of evil associations inadvertently formed, and official disavowal of its support. 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